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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

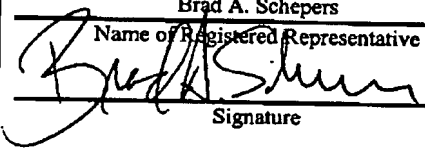
In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner
Lawrence M. Boyd et al.	)	David C. Comstock
	)	
Application Serial No. 09/869,813	)	Group Art Unit 3732
	)	
Filed January 3, 2002	)	Ref. No. MSDI-303/
	)	PC379.04
INTERVERTEBRAL SPACERS WITH SIDE	)	
WALL ACCESSIBLE INTERIOR CAVITY	)	June 7, 2007

**Via Facsimile Transmission: 571-273-8300****RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION AND ADVISORY ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed February 26, 2007 and the Advisory Action mailed May 29, 2007, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks. A fee in the amount of \$120.00 is enclosed herewith for a one-month extension of time, thereby extending the time period to respond to the final Office Action to June 29, 2007 (one month from the mailing date of the Advisory Action). Please charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12- 2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:	
June 7, 2007	
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Brad A. Schepers	
Name of Registered Representative	
	
Signature	
June 7, 2007	
Date of Signature	

### INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 5-15, 17, 18, 20, 34-37, 46, 47, 50-52, 54, 56 and 59-82 were pending in the subject application for the final Office Action mailed on February 26, 2007. Claims 46, 47, 50, 51 and 76-82 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13-15, 17, 18, 20, 34-37, 52, 54, 56, 59, 61-64, 66-69 and 72-75 have been rejected on various grounds. Claims 12, 60, 65, 70 and 71 have been objected to, but have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are hereby requested.

In the Advisory Action mailed May 29, 2007, the Applicant's response to the final Office Action was not entered because the amendments were not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal due to two informalities associated with reference to cancelled claim 58 in the remarks section of the Response and an informality associated with amended claim 70. The Applicant has addressed each of these informalities in the subject Response. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests entry of the subject Response and allowance of the subject application.

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Response to final Office Action and Advisory Action  
Application Serial No. 09/869,813  
Inventors: Boyd et al.  
Filing Date: January 3, 2002